

CLAIMS

- 1 1. An optical disc comprising:
 - 2 optical information written onto the optical disc, said information being readable
 - 3 by an optical source and an associated optical detector, the optical information
 - 4 including contents and a table of contents, wherein
 - 5 a portion of the table of contents is damaged, making the optical information not
 - 6 readable by the optical detector, wherein the contents are significantly undamaged.
- 1 2. The optical disc of claim 1, wherein the damaged portion is a hole.
- 1 3. The optical disc of claim 2, wherein the hole extends in the range of 3 micrometers
2 to 10 millimeters radially.
- 1 4. The optical disc of claim 3, wherein the hole extends 5 millimeters radially.
- 1 5. The optical disc of claim 2, wherein the hole is circular in shape.
- 1 6. The optical disc of claim 2, wherein the hole extends at 1.33 micrometer
2 circumferentially.
- 1 7. An apparatus for rendering a portion of a table of contents of an optical disc
2 unreadable, the apparatus comprising:
 - 3 a feeder for feeding and supporting the optical disc;
 - 4 a hold mechanism disposed on the feeder for holding the optical disc in the
 - 5 feeder after the optical disc has been fed into the feeder; and
 - 6 a damaging mechanism facing the optical disc for damaging a portion of the
 - 7 table of contents of the optical disc, wherein

8 the damaging mechanism is disposed such that the damaging mechanism damages
9 the optical disc in a pre-defined location and the damaged portion renders the optical
10 disc unreadable.

1 8. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the damaging mechanism is a punch for
2 punching out the portion of the table of contents.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the damaging mechanism is a drill for drilling out
2 the portion of the table of contents.

1 10. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the damaging mechanism is a laser source for
2 physically removing the portion of the table of contents by laser ablation.

1 11. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the damaging mechanism is a piercing mechanism
2 for piercing through the portion of the table of contents by laser ablation.

1 12. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the damaging mechanism distorts the portion of
2 the table of contents by heat.

1 13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the damaging mechanism is a torch.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the damaging mechanism faces the optical disc at
2 an angle other than 90 degrees.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the damaged portion of the table of contents
2 extends in the range of 3 micrometers to 10 millimeters radially.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the damaged portion of the table of contents
2 extends 5 millimeters radially.

1 17. A method for processing an optical disc having optical information written on the disc,
 2 the method comprising the steps of:
 3 receiving an optical disc having optical information written thereon including
 4 contents, a table of contents and other information including an identifier of the disc;
 5 comparing the disc identifier with a reference to determine if there is a match,
 6 and
 7 if there is no match, rendering a portion of the table of contents unreadable but
 8 without significantly damaging the contents.

1 18. The method of claim 17, wherein the rendering step physically removes the portion
 2 of the table of contents.

1 19. The method of claim 17, wherein the unreadable portion of the table of contents
 2 extends in the range of 3 micrometers to 10 millimeters radially.

1 20. The method of claim 19, wherein the unreadable portion of the table of contents
 2 extends 5 millimeters radially.